



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Office of Intergovernmental Relations
Office of Grants and Special Projects**

*A - applications
for Metropolitan Council
for six projects
JAD - 4/24/02*

Date: April 22, 2002
To: Community Development Committee
Referral to: Ways and Means Committee
Subject: **Applications for the Metropolitan Council Livable Communities
Demonstration Account-"Opportunity Grants"**

Recommendation: Authorize the appropriate City officials to endorse the attached resolution in support of four applications made to Metropolitan Council for Opportunity Grants. The Metropolitan Council requires the City to be the fiscal agent for any grant awards.

Previous Directives: *9X*

Prepared or Submitted by: Gaynell Schandel, Manager, Grants and Special Projects
(612) 673-2001

Approved by: John Moir, City Coordinator *John Moir*

Presenters in Committee Gaynell Schandel, Manager, Grants and Special Projects

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

☒ X No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☐ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):

☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The Metropolitan Council provides opportunity grants to fund local initiatives to develop project-specific and site-specific land use plans. Current funding in the amount of \$500,000 is available with maximum awards of \$75,000. This grant requires a one to

one local contribution. The Metropolitan Council wishes to be a funding partner in proposals that:

- Plan to demonstrate compact and connected land use patterns that are linked to transit where available, or build capacity for transit service, and support walkable neighborhoods.
- Propose a mix of uses, including a mix of housing types and costs, and an economic mix near commercial, civic or other uses that facilitate daily needs and community activities.
- Plan to protect and enhance natural resources.
- Show potential for evolving to projects eligible to receive future LCDA funding in the development category.

The Metropolitan Council has provided the attached resolution language to demonstrate the City's knowledge and participation as funding agent for the proposed projects.

The following projects will be submitted by Minneapolis entities.

38th Street LRT- The Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) is requesting \$45,000 to contract with a consulting team to prepare a master plan or detailed redevelopment plan for revitalization of 38th Street. As part of the plan, market studies, design workshops and the creation of a zoning overlay will be examined. With the development of the Hiawatha LRT line, which will include a station at 38th Street, this area is poised to become a vital and vibrant transit-oriented community. Proposed Match Funding Source: SENA NRP Funding, City of Minneapolis Planning Department

46th Street "Town Square" Planning Process-MCDA is requesting \$50,000 for technical planning and implementation for the "Town Square" site at the 46th Street LRT Station. A request for Proposals will be developed to select a consultant who will collaborate with various groups to develop a plan for the southeast quadrant and 46th and Hiawatha. This quadrant has been identified in the 46th Street LRT master plan as vital in the development of a transit-oriented community. Proposed Match Funding Source: MCDA, City of Minneapolis Planning Department.

Banks Building-Seventh Street Loft Apartments-MCDA is requesting \$70,000 for market research, environmental and architectural planning studies for a mixed-use development of affordable housing and retail space. The project will include approximately 126 apartment units, 395 parking stalls and 6,000 square feet of retail space. Locating the proposed project adjacent to the proposed Seventh Street North Star Commuter Rail Station will provide a positive addition to the ongoing redevelopment in the area as well as providing a vital hub for the development of a transit-oriented community. Proposed Match Funding Source: MCDA

Somali Banadir Live Work Project-The Somali Banadir Organization is requesting \$75,000 for market and feasibility studies as well as architectural and capital planning for a mixed use Somali-Banadir Live Work Project. Possible sites for the development are located at Chicago/Franklin and Minnehaha/26th Street. The proposed project will

provide a 1-2 block development of three story buildings with retail space on the ground levels and housing on the upper levels for owners/operators of the retail space. Proposed Match Funding Source: Somali-Banadir Community of Minnesota, Inc., Metropolitan Sociometrics Research Institute, Inc., Urban Solutions, Inc., and local foundations.

ADDITIONS

Central Avenue Smart Growth – The Northeast Economic Development Council (NEEDC) requests \$75,000 to continue development planning along the Central Avenue Corridor. Activities will build upon the 1998 Central Avenue Plan and strategic planning conducted as a result of the formulation of the Northeast Community Development Corporation in January 2002. Specific activities include completion of a property survey to identify opportunities and priorities for in-fill development, reuse and/or redevelopment activities along Central Avenue with an emphasis on increasing the density and sustaining the diversity of commercial, residential and cultural uses. Matching funds provided by Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) will fund the hiring of an executive director for the Northeast CDC who will coordinate this planning effort. (Note: NEEDC and the NE CDC will soon be one in the same.)

Northeast Arts Action Plan Initiative – The Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA) requests \$75,000 to supplement efforts to develop an arts action plan for Northeast Minneapolis. Local match has been provided by \$60,000 from the McKnight Foundation, General Mills Foundation, Wells Fargo Bank, Hillcrest Development and Shamrock Properties Inc. with additional in-kind support from the City of Minneapolis and the NEMAA. Activities include the completion of market/demand research, property assessment and other surveying work to create an implementation plan which seeks to build the capacity -- and sustain the presence -- of artists and arts/cultural organizations in Northeast Minneapolis while sustaining diversity and promoting continued community revitalization.